UNDP aided programmes in rural sector

1767. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any approval has been granted to the national programmes of various States under the United Nations Development Programme in the rural sector;

(b) if so, the details of the programmes aided by the UNDP, State-wise, especially in Bihar and Maharashtra; and

(c) the amount provided for the same by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) As per the information provided by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the following projects are implemented in Rural Sector aided by UNDP:

Project	States	Implementing Agency
Capacity Building of Elected Women Representatives and Functionaries of Panchayati Raj Institutions	Bihar, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh Haryana, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.	Government of India (Ministry of Panchayati Raj).
Social Mobilization Around Natural Resource Management For Poverty Alleviation	Rajasthan, Orissa, and Jharkhand	Government of India (Ministry of Rural Development)
"Support to Operationalisation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act."	All States except Goa and Union Territories.	Government of India (Ministry of Rural Development)

(c) Government of India does not provide funds for the above projects.

Fluorosis due to ground water pollution in NE

1768. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of States in the North Eastern Region of the country affected by fluorosis due to ground water pollution, particularly in Assam;

(b) how much level of fluoride has reached per litre in North Eastern States;

(c) the number of districts of Assam and other States of the Region affected due to presence of iron and other material in ground water; and

(d) whether Government have taken/are taking steps to check the level of fluoride?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) As a result of water quality survey conducted by North Eastern States as on 1.4.2006, only Assam has been reported to be affected with excess fluoride i.e. more than 1.50 mg/1 in rural drinking water sources.

(c) 9 districts of Arunachal Pradesh, 22 districts of Assam, 5 districts, of Manipur, 6 districts of Meghalaya, 7 districts of Mizoram, one district in Nagaland, 3 districts in Sikkim and 3 districts of Tripura have been reported with excess iron concentration in drinking water sources.

18 districts of Assam and one districts of Tripura have reported excess arsenic concentration in rural drinking water sources.

4 districts of Arunachal Pradesh, 19 districts of Assam, 2 districts of Tripura have reported multiple problems in rural drinking water sources.

(d) Rural drinking water supply is a State subject. Government of India assists the State Governments technically and financially through the centrally sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme. Regular water quality testing is being done by the district water quality testing laboratories. National Rural Drinking Water Quality Monitoring & Surveillance Programme has been launched in 2006, which aims at checking quality of all rural drinking water sources by the community themselves by using simple to use field test kits.

Job cards under NREGA in NE

1769. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of job cards issued under the National Rural Employment